

## NEWSWIRE: 15th November 2024

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- Services on Sunday
  - Christmas Volunteers Needed!
  - Children and Families Worker Vacancy - Maternity Cover
  - Pop up Tuesday Fellowship meeting
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### *A message from Duncan*

This has been a week in which many of us have carried a heavy heart.

A damning report into a prolific child abuser associated with the Church of England, and the subsequent secrecy and failure of clergy to report the abuse, has been published leaving the country shocked and appalled. It will have been most difficult for those abused who have had to relive the pain they have carried for so many years. I cannot imagine the impact it has had on their lives and we pray for God's grace to carry them, and their families, at this time.

This has led to the resignation of Archbishop Justin. Statements from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and the Lead Bishop for safeguarding in the Church of England can be read [here](#).

There will be many things which will need to be said and done as a result of this report: a lot of soul searching, honest appraisals of the culture of our churches, a rigorous evaluation of CofE safeguarding procedures. There will also be a time to look forward with hope and faith.

But first we need to sit without words; to measure the weight of this moment; to allow the enormity of it to impress itself upon us, to grieve the gravity of human sin and its evil destructiveness, to lament: this is our humanity, this happened in *our* Church of England, and for many of us, in our corner of the Church of England.

Our studies in Daniel this term will not continue beyond chapter 7. But in chapter 9, Daniel prays a staggering prayer. He was a blameless man before God that none could find fault with. In fact his political adversaries had to manipulate the

king to ensure Daniel's integrity ensnared him in a legal loophole. Yet, as he considers the history of his own people, their sin and their rejection of their covenant relationship with Yahweh, he owns it himself and utters these words (v9): "Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame."

This day we are covered with shame and cry: Lord have mercy.

*Duncan*

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### **Collect for the Second Sunday before Advent**

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son was revealed  
to destroy the works of the devil  
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:  
grant that we, having this hope,  
may purify ourselves even as he is pure;  
that when he shall appear in power and great glory  
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;  
where he is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

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### **SERVICES ON SUNDAY**

**9.30am - Holy Communion at St Peter's**

*Readings: Daniel 6:1-28; Matthew 10:26-32*

**10.30am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's and**  
live streamed on [this link](#)

*Readings: Daniel 6*



If you have difficulties accessing the service on the livestream link above, please try accessing [our youtube channel](#) directly.

**6.30pm - Shaped by the Word Workshop at St Leonard's** (see below)

### **NEXT WEEK**

**Monday 18th November**

**Bump to One** meet on **Mondays** from **10.30am** to **midday** in **St Leonard's**

**Walkie Talkies** meet on **Mondays** (term time) from **10am** to **11.30am** in **St Leonard's church hall**.

### **Tuesday 19th November**

**Mum's Bible Study** meet every **Tuesday morning** (term-time) **10 - 11.30am** at **95 Hazeldene Close**.

**Tinies and Toddlers** meet in **Cassington Village Hall** on **Tuesday** (term time) from **1.30 - 3pm**

### **Wednesday 20th November**

**Warm Welcome Wednesday** from 10.30am to midday in **St Leonard's church**

**The funeral of the late Robert Bruce Wells** will be held at **St Peter's church** in Cassington at **11am** on **20th November**.

### **Friday 22nd November**

**"No smoke without fire"** - **Big Apple Baroque concert** at **7.30 pm** in **St Leonard's church**

### **NEXT SUNDAY - 24th November**

9am - Holy Communion at St Leonard's

10.30am - All-in service at St Leonard's and livestreamed

5pm - Evening Prayer at St Peter's

### **Looking further ahead**

**Pop up Tuesday Fellowship Meeting** in **St Leonard's Church Hall** at **2.30pm** on **Tuesday 26th November** (see below)

**Christmas Tree Festival at St Leonard's** - Friday 29th November to Sunday 1st December (see below)

**Christingle service - Sunday 1st December** at **4pm** at **St Leonard's**

**The funeral of the late Margaret Collier** will be held at **St Peter's church** in Cassington at **11.30am** on **Monday 2nd December**.

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**Blythswood Care Shoebox Appeal** - Many thanks to all those in both Cassington and Eynsham who kindly filled shoe boxes with Christmas gifts to send to children and adults in Eastern European countries. Your generosity is much appreciated and will bring a smile to those less fortunate than ourselves.

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# SHAPED BY THE WORD

# DANIEL

*An evening exploring Daniel 7 together: PART TWO*

**Sunday 17th Novemeber  
6.30pm, St Leonard's Church**



## **SHAPED BY THE WORD: Daniel and chapter 7 - PART 2!!!**

Our first 'Shaped by the Word' evening was great fun (from my perspective) and I hope helpful for those who came. Unfortunately the recording did not work so if you wanted to catch up please find:

- [NOTES here](#)
- [SLIDES here](#)

However, we only got halfway through the chapter so we will be having **PART TWO on SUNDAY 17th NOV at 6.30pm**. So do come along for an interactive experience with opportunities for discussion and questions, finishing no later than 7.30pm. As always, the evening will be much better if you are there!

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## **Children and Families Worker - Maternity Cover**

With Rabea starting her maternity leave in the New Year, we are advertising for a temporary Children and Families Worker to provide maternity cover next year. You will find the job advert on [this link](#). Do share with anyone you think may be interested in applying, and please keep praying for our children and families ministry at this time.



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**"No smoke without fire" - Big Apple Baroque** invites you to a **chamber concert** of sparkling and entrancing music by **J.S. Bach**, with convivial canapes and warming winter beverages to match.

**Friday 22 November 2024 at 7.30 pm**

St Leonard's Parish Church, Eynsham

Donations in aid of Tear Fund

There's another **POP UP TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP** on **26 NOVEMBER** - just to get you in the mood for Christmas! Martin Flatman is our speaker with Advent (of course!) the theme. Why not come and join us, meet up with your friends and enjoy a time of chat, tea/coffee, mince pies and cake afterwards. **Visitors** are always very welcome. **2.30 to 3.30** at the **Church Hall**. Looking forward to seeing you. Angela Parks.

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## **Christmas is coming and we would really appreciate your help!**

There are lots of preparations currently being made behind the scenes for Christmas events and services. You will see a number of appeals for help in the coming weeks (including a couple below!). If you can spare any time, even if it is only half an hour, we would love to hear from you. Thank you!

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### **Eynsham Christmas Tree Festival**

We are delighted to announce that this year's Christmas Tree Festival will take place inside St. Leonard's Church on Nov 29th - Dec 1st. The festival begins at 5pm on Friday evening and will close at 8pm on Sunday evening, when the village lights will be turned on. As before a "Pop up" cafe will be provided, alongside a Christmas activity for children, from

10am to 12am on the Saturday.

For three days the church will be filled with sparkling Christmas trees, each sponsored and decorated by a family, school, uniformed organisation, village group or somebody who just loves Christmas! If you would like to provide a tree there is still time to get involved, please contact Laura Churchyard, [youth.stleonards@gmail.com](mailto:youth.stleonards@gmail.com), for details.

This year's festival theme is "O Holy Night", offering lots of choice of stars, angels, wise travellers and much more. There will be a vote taken for the people's favourite tree, which will be announced at our service the following day. The event is free with the option to donate towards the Eynsham Larder, which provides food for village members struggling in our current times.

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### **Christmas Tree Festival - Volunteers Needed!**

Our annual Christmas Tree Festival is making its return this year, and we are on the hunt for some volunteers!

The Church will be open:

Friday 29th November: 5-8pm

Saturday 30th November: 10am-12pm

Sunday 1st Dec: 5-8pm



On Friday and Saturday we would love it if anyone is able to volunteer to run the votes table! [Simply making sure everyone only votes once!] And on Sunday, we are looking for volunteers to be around to chat & lock up after the event at 8pm!

If you think that you might be able to volunteer an hour, or two, or more(!) please don't hesitate to get in touch with Laura, in person, on email or on the phone!

Thanks in advance!

Laura [youth.stleonards@gmail.com](mailto:youth.stleonards@gmail.com) / 07539747237

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# Christmas around the World

Saturday 14th December, 5-7pm  
St. Leonard's Church Hall (Thames Street)



Come and experience Christmas from all over the world!  
An event for the whole family to celebrate Eynsham's cultural diversity through food, craft, music and community.  
If you are able, bring a dish from your home country and wear typical clothing.

For more information please contact Rabea:  
[slpfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:slpfamilies@gmail.com)

## "Christmas around the World" - helpers needed

This event on 14th December is an opportunity to celebrate Eynsham's cultural diversity and to share something about the true meaning of Christmas. We still need some more help.

What you can do to help:

- Invite people in our village from different nationalities to come and join
- help set up or clear away on the day
- pray!

If you are able to help or would like more information, please contact Rabea (email: [slpfamilies@gmail.com](mailto:slpfamilies@gmail.com))

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**Jo** writes: "My time at Moorlands College, Christchurch, is coming to an end. I have been working with a fantastic group of students, who have been hard at work on the Healthy Community Engagement course. This week we have been looking at principles of adult education, because there is a high chance they will be involved in training others during their work with Bible translation organisations. The next two days promise to be fun, as each of the students takes a turn at teaching a lesson on a topic of their choice to the rest of the class.

**Wyc/iffe  
Bib/e  
Trans/at**

Also for **Paul**: Please pray for good health for him and the team of national believers working with him, and that the team make good progress practising the writing system.

Thanks for praying!

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### **Please pray for:**

- Dave recovering from a stroke.
- Ben and healing for his mental health.
- Scarlett's recovery from long Covid.
- Katie suffering with epilepsy. Please pray that the right medication be found to control her seizures.

To add names to the prayer list, please contact the Church Office ([stleonards\\_stpeters@btconnect.com](mailto:stleonards_stpeters@btconnect.com)) Names will be added to the list by express permission, and only first names will be published.

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[www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk](http://www.stleonardseynsham.org.uk) | [www.stpeterschurchcassington.org](http://www.stpeterschurchcassington.org) | [Youtube channel](#) | [facebook page](#)